EIGHTIETH
ANNUAL REPORT

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE

SAN FRANCISCO
CALIFORNIA

NINETEEN HUNDRED
THIRTY-FIVE

Eightieth Annual Report

of the

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE

for the

Year Ending February 28, 1935

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE OFFICERS

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Year Ending February 28, 1935

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Mechanics'-Mercantile Library

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MECHANICS' INSTITUTE

Mechanics'-Mercantile Library

Mechanics' Institute Chess and Checker Club

57 Post Street

San Francisco, California

The Library now contains nearly one hundred and twenty-eight thousand volumes.
Special attention is given to the division of technology.
Over five hundred periodicals and newspapers are on file.
A chess and checker room is maintained, where smoking is permitted.
Lecture courses are held each season.
Library open daily, 9 a. m. to 10 p. m.
Sunday, 1 p. m. to 5 p. m.
Chess room, daily, 9 a. m. to 10 p. m.

TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP

Entrance Fee	$ 1.00
Half-yearly Dues (in advance)	3.00
Life Membership	100.00

Non-residents may use the Library for one month on payment of fifty cents.

A member may introduce a friend (not a resident of the city), who will be allowed the use of the Library rooms for one month.

LIBRARY RULES

Members are entitled to take out four books at a time, provided however, that only two books of new fiction or current magazines marked "One week only," whether regular books or extra books, may be out at the same time on one membership. Extra books may be taken out on payment of five cents each.

All new fiction and new magazines may be kept out one week only, and are not renewable. All other circulating books, except where marked "One Week" or "Seven Days," may be kept out two weeks and may be renewed for two weeks longer unless marked "Not Renewable." Renewal notice may be given by mail or telephone (Garfield 1750).

An overdue charge of five cents a day will be made on all one week books and current magazines. On other books a charge of two cents a day will be made.

Reservation postals may be left for all circulating non-fiction books and for all fiction that has been in the Library for more than one month.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

San Francisco, March 7, 1935.

To the Members of the Mechanics' Institute:

I have the honor to present to you the President's report for the eightieth year of the Mechanics' Institute.

It is with deep regret I report the passing away of our First Vice-President, Mr. Constant Meese, and our Trustee, Mr. Andrew Y. Wood. Mr. Meese was an outstanding citizen, of the type of men who founded this Institute. A machinist by trade, by nature a student and thinker, he developed a successful business and then retired and devoted himself to public service.

Mr. Wood distinguished himself by his ability to express his opinions in the "Recorder," of which he was editor, by his services on the probation board of this city and by his literary achievements.

Your Trustees elected to fill the vacancies caused by their deaths Mr. Wynn Meredith, eminent engineer, and Mr. Constant J. Auger, one of our leading merchants.

During the year we sold to the State of California for $32,700.00 a piece of property at Third and Stillman Streets which was required for the San Francisco-Oakland Bridge. The amount received was the best that could be obtained and the sale was unanimously ratified at a members' meeting called for that purpose.

You will see by the Secretary's report that much the greater part of the Institute's funds are invested in bonds of this State or its political subdivisions. I am happy to state that none of these bonds is in default and our investments in mortgages in San Francisco real estate are in good condition.

The amount of rent received for the Post Street building was about $3000.00 more than that of the previous year. This is partly on account of collections of rent owed for the previous year. This building, like all similar buildings, is suffering from the depression that we all hope to see ended soon.

Our cash returns from investments, dues, and library receipts leave us with a surplus over operating expenses. Under present conditions this surplus has been greatly reduced. It

formerly was from $18,000.00 to $20,000.00 a year. This year by reason of increased income, back rent collections and reduced library expense it has increased approximately $3400.00 over that of last year.

After the death of our former Librarian, Francis B. Graves, in December, 1933, your Trustees did not immediately fill the vacancy, as it was felt the selection of a new Librarian should receive most careful and serious consideration. In the meantime Mrs. Mary O. Carmody, the then assistant Librarian, was placed in charge as Acting Librarian. A special committee went into the matter thoroughly and considered the qualifications of a number of candidates. On this committee's recommendation your Trustees, last November, appointed Mrs. Carmody, Librarian. From the many expressions of approval received we feel our action has given general satisfaction. Mrs. Carmody has been with the Library for more than fifteen years. She knows the Library and its needs, as well as the desires of its members, and she is thoroughly imbued with the spirit of service to our membership that it is our constant aim to maintain.

While we spent about $1000.00 for books over the amount expended during the previous year, the cost of Library maintenance has been slightly less, due mainly to the saving in the Librarian's salary for some months. We have practically the same number of members as we had one year ago—a good showing in the face of present conditions.

Our Lecture Committee arranged for the usual course of lectures. The attendance thus far has been much in excess of that of previous years and I feel justified therefore in assuming that the selection made has met with the approval of the members.

Your Trustees have always maintained the utmost freedom for our members in using the library shelves and have kept as much as possible from annoying the members by making them show their membership cards. This very freedom, however, is an invitation to the use of the library by non-members and constant vigilance by the employees has to be exercised in this regard. As a step toward better control we have made the change in the charging desk on the main library floor in order to exercise more effective supervision of those using the library. If we find we have to exercise still more vigilance we shall do so only in the interest of our members; in that event we solicit

your co-operation in whatever future action we may see fit to take.

Let me repeat what I have said in my previous annual reports. This Institute belongs to you, its members; your Trustees are your servants and have but these desires, to preserve the funds, to increase them by wise investments and to give the members the greatest possible service consistent with the Institute's financial resources. The Board of Trustees will always welcome any suggestions that our members may present to them in the best interests of the Institute.

In conclusion I wish to express the satisfaction of your Trustees, and I believe of our members, for the highly efficient services of our Secretary, Mr. John H. Wood, and the devotion and ability of our Librarian, Mrs. Mary O. Carmody, and the entire Library staff. And finally I wish to express my gratification, as President, for the unfailing courtesy and co-operation of my fellow Trustees.

JOSEPH M. CUMMING, President.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

For the Year Ending February 28, 1935

San Francisco, March 7, 1935.

To the Board of Trustees of the Mechanics' Institute,
San Francisco.

Gentlemen:—

I have the honor to present herewith financial statement of the Mechanics' Institute for the year ending February 28, 1935:

March 1, 1934, Cash on deposit in various banks	$ 26,138.95
Cash in contingent funds	450.00
Total Cash	$ 26,588.95

RECEIPTS

Mechanics' Institute Building—rent collections from March 1, 1934, to February 28, 1935		$ 41,111.44
Interest, Ernest N. Atkins Memorial Fund		30.00
Interest, James Lick Fund		600.00
Interest, Savings Account		269.73
Interest, Mortgages Receivable Accounts		7,056.50
Interest, Bonds		30,149.62
Third Street Property, Income Account		1,662.75
Library and General Administration:		
Dues	$ 18,170.13	
Entrance Fees	552.00	
Books Paid For	203.15	
Fines and Extra Books	2,075.97	
Life Membership	100.00	
Sundry	13.50	
		21,114.75
Total Receipts		$101,994.79
Received from Investments Accounts:		
Bonds Matured	$ 45,500.00	
Payments on Mortgages Receivable %	11,400.00	
Sale of Third Street Property	32,700.00	
		89,600.00
Total Cash Received		191,594.79
		$218,183.74

EXPENDITURES

Mechanics' Institute Building — operating expenses from March 1, 1934, to February 28, 1935:			
Pay Roll		$ 14,454.94	
Taxes		8,000.88	
Insurance		679.35	
Heat		702.95	
Light and Power		2,462.63	
Water		432.92	
Window Cleaning		357.50	
Supplies		396.56	
Repairs		346.75	
General Expense		231.29	
Alterations		29.81	
Equipment		4.92	
		$ 28,100.50	
Library and General Administration:			
Books, Binding and Periodicals	$ 12,009.55		
Furniture and Equipment	371.25		
General Expense	2,077.28		
Insurance	909.54		
Legal Expense	250.25		
Lectures	639.73		
Printing and Stationery	501.15		
Salaries	25,169.61		
Supplies	151.70		
Taxes	55.25		
Monthly Bulletin	209.57		
Rent of Library Rooms	18,720.00		
Alterations	326.89		
Total Operating Expense		$ 61,391.77	
Third Street Property:			
Taxes	$ 1,089.91		
Expense	123.18		
		1,213.09	
Total Operating Expense		$ 90,705.36	
Post Street Building, Cost Account	$ 132.61		
Investments Account:			
Bonds purchased (Par Value)	79,000.00		
Bond Premium Account	11,929.66		
Total		91,062.27	
Total Cash paid out			$181,767.63
Cash on hand in various banks, Feb. 28, 1935		$ 35,966.11	
Cash on hand in contingent funds		450.00	
Total Cash on hand			36,416.11
			$218,183.74

SUMMARY

Cash on hand, March 1, 1934		$ 26,588.95
Total Receipts	$101,994.79	
Total Expense	90,705.36	
Excess Receipts		11,289.43
Received from Investments Accounts		89,600.00
		$127,478.38

DISTRIBUTION

Cash on hand and in various banks, Feb. 28, 1935	$ 35,966.11	
Cash in contingent funds	450.00	
Total Cash		$ 36,416.11
Investments made from surplus		91,062.27
		$127,478.38

The net amount expended since April 18, 1906, on Books and Periodicals, and Binding of new Books has been $339,052.65

The amount paid out for construction, equipment, etc., of the Post Street Building has been 389,418.42

Insurance is carried as follows:

Books	$100,000.00
Furniture	15,000.00
Post Street Building	286,500.00

The Resources of the Mechanics' Institute are as follows:

Post St. lot covered by Mechanics' Institute Building.

First Mortgages for $123,700.00 on San Francisco Real Estate.

Bonds to the par value of $646,451.40, as follows:

$185,000.00	San Francisco, Cal., City Hall 5%.
9,700.00	San Francisco, Cal., Municipal Railway 5%.
22,000.00	San Francisco, Cal., Water 4½%.
29,000.00	San Francisco, Cal., Golden Gate Park 3½%.
5,000.00	San Francisco, Cal., Hetch Hetchy Water 5%.
21,000.00	San Francisco, Cal., Hetch Hetchy Water 4½%.
10,000.00	San Francisco, Cal., Hetch Hetchy Water 5¾%.
200.00	San Francisco, Cal., Library 3½%.
1,000.00	San Francisco, Cal., Playground 3½%.
8,000.00	San Francisco, Cal., School 4½%.
3,000.00	San Francisco, Cal., School 5%.
1,357.50	Berkeley, Cal., Municipal Improvement 4½%.
5,000.00	Berkeley, Cal., School District 5%.
1,875.00	Chico, Cal., Municipal Improvement 5%.
3,000.00	Cloverdale, Cal., Municipal Improvement 5%.
55,000.00	East Bay Municipal Utilities 5%.
2,000.00	Exeter, Cal., Union High School District 5%.

2,000.00	Gilroy, Cal. School District 5%.
2,000.00	Grass Valley, Cal., High School District 6%.
2,000.00	Hanford, Cal., Municipal Improvement 5%.
1,500.00	Livermore, Cal., Municipal Improvement 5%.
1,000.00	Los Angeles Harbor Improvement 5%.
10,000.00	Marin, Cal., Municipal Water District 5%.
1,000.00	Merced, Cal., Union High School 6%.
4,393.90	Monterey, Cal., Municipal Improvement 5%.
700.00	Nevada City, Cal., Sewer 6%.
7,000.00	Oakland, Cal., School District 5%.
2,000.00	Oakland, Cal., Municipal Improvement 5½%.
5,000.00	Petaluma, Cal., City High School 6%.
3,000.00	Pittsburg, Cal., Municipal Improvement 5%.
1,000.00	Placerville, Cal., Municipal Street Work 5%.
3,000.00	Placerville, Cal., School District 5%.
1,000.00	Richmond, Cal., School District 4½%.
5,000.00	Richmond, Cal., School District 5½%.
5,000.00	Sacramento, Cal., School District 4½%.
8,000.00	Sacramento, Cal., High School District 4½%.
4,000.00	Salinas, Cal., Union High School District 5%.
2,000.00	San Luis Obispo, Cal., School District 6%.
1,000.00	San Mateo, Cal., Union High School 6%.
1,125.00	Santa Barbara, Cal., School District 4½%.
1,000.00	Santa Maria, Cal., Union High School District 6%.
10,000.00	Santa Rosa, Cal., Union High School District 5%.
1,000.00	Sequoia, (San Mateo Co., Cal.), Union High School District 6%.
10,000.00	Stockton, Cal., School District 5%.
2,600.00	Visalia, Cal., Municipal Improvement 6%.
5,000.00	Washington, (Alameda Co., Cal.), Union High School District 5%.
1,000.00	Williams, Cal., Municipal Improvement 5½%.
7,000.00	Butte County, Cal., Highway 5%.
1,000.00	Contra Costa County, Cal., 5%.
15,000.00	Fresno County, Cal., 5%.
5,000.00	Merced County, Cal., 5%.
2,000.00	San Mateo County, Cal., Highway 5%.
7,000.00	Sonoma County, Cal., 5%.
3,000.00	California State Highway 4½%.
54,000.00	California State Highway 4¾%.
20,000.00	California State Highway 5%.
5,000.00	California State Highway 5¾%.
32,000.00	California State Harbor 4%.
19,000.00	California State University Building 4½%.
10,000.00	California State Veterans' Welfare 4½%.
	Cash on hand, March 1, 1935, $36,416.11.
	Books, Furniture and Equipment of the Library.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN H. WOOD, Secretary.

REPORT OF THE LIBRARY

San Francisco, March 7, 1935.

To the President and Board of Trustees, Mechanics' Institute.

Gentlemen: I herewith submit the Eightieth Annual Report of the Library for the year ending February 28, 1935.

Membership

March 1, 1934		3,896
Added—Subscribing	551	
Life	1	
Reinstated	9	561
		4,457
Withdrawn—Life (deceased)	20	
Subscribing	527	547
Membership February 28, 1935		3,910

During the year nineteen subscribing members who had paid continuously for thirty years were, according to the Constitution, made life members.

The membership is divided as follows:

Honorary	2
Life	596
Subscribing	3,312
	3,910

Book Accessions

Number of volumes listed March 1, 1934		124,425
Added by purchase	3,021	
Added by binding	239	
Added by gift	227	3,487
		127,912
Less lost, paid for, and discarded		97
Number of volumes listed February 28, 1935		127,815

Binding

877 volumes were rebound at the bindery and 4,810 volumes were repaired in the Library.

Gifts

3,694 unbound items, consisting of pamphlets, serials, and newspapers, were presented to the Library.

Accessions by Classes

General Works	44	$ 217.33	38	$ 81.50	18	100
Philosophy	84	175.76	1	2.00	5	90
Religion	36	83.10	1	2.00	3	40
Sociology	273	652.76	20	47.10	73	366
Philology	5	7.29	..	....	..	5
Science	112	507.61	41	84.50	16	169
Useful Arts	208	726.86	104	242.10	55	367
Fine Arts	133	365.75	23	63.10	7	169
Literature	213	392.85	1	2.00	20	234
Foreign Literature	8	8.00	..	....	8	16
Travel	189	476.95	8	16.40	5	202
Biography	287	774.66	..	....	4	291
History	136	368.55	2	4.20	7	145
Fiction and Children's Books	1293	2,197.10	..	....	6	1299
	3021	$6,954.57	239	$ 544.90	227	3487

Circulation

There were issued for home use 220,372 volumes, an average monthly circulation of 18,364 volumes.

Table of Circulation Statistics

General Works	639	Foreign Literature	1,142
Philosophy	4,715	Travel	11,738
Religion	1,736	Biography	13,460
Sociology	9,083	History	7,342
Philology	176	Fiction	128,658
Science	4,542	Periodicals	7,398
Useful Arts	8,240		220,372
Fine Arts	7,091		
Literature	13,656		

Fiction	128,658	volumes,	58.38	per cent
Non-fiction	91,714	"	41.62	" "
Adult Books	219,616	volumes,	99.66	per cent
Children's Books	756	"	0.34	" "

Respectfully submitted,

MARY O. CARMODY, Librarian.

APPENDIX

Year Ending Feb. 28	Membership Sub-scribing	Membership Life and Honorary	Membership Total	Volumes in Library	Circulation
1935	3,312	598	3,910	127,815	220,372
1934	3,290	604	3,896	124,425	230,545
1933	3,517	649	4,166	121,666	250,140
1932	3,835	664	4,499	118,928	254,205
1931	3,878	666	4,546	114,347	237,974
1930	3,748	677	4,425	108,697	208,552
1929	3,657	679	4,336	103,123	176,174
1928	3,789	703	4,492	98,195	165,253
1927	4,032	702	4,734	102,056	161,980
1926	4,030	690	4,723	98,696	164,347
1925	4,170	690	4,860	94,992	169,631
1924	4,356	652	5,008	91,433	172,712
1923	4,317	657	4,974	87,855	172 902
1922	4,160	646	4,806	84,056	175,502
1921	3,842	650	4,492	80,776	150,376
1920	3,408	649	4,057	77,140	128,480
1919	2,994	653	3,647	73,128	101,728
1918	3,135	590	3,725	70,055	118,159
1917	3,144	598	3,742	65,875	132,721
1916	2,982	617	3,599	63,672	127,866
1915	2,862	626	3,488	56,740	131,687
1914	2,709	632	3,341	50,776	125,650
1913	2,855	643	3,498	44,527	118,998
1912	2 660	644	3,304	39,266	110,194
1911	2,385	651	3,036	35,392	88,753
1910	1,717	645	2,362	32,186	71,741
1909	2,034	646	2,680	28,324	83,042
1908	2,120	643	2,763	24,179	.....
1907	2,726	651	3,377	17,850	.....
April 18, 1906	....	...	4,150	.....	.....

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE PUBLICATIONS

In Print

Annual Reports, 1907 to date.

List of books on architecture. August, 1913.

List of books on building and building materials. December, 1913.

List of books on electrical engineering. June, 1916.

List of books on petroleum. January, 1917.

List of books on aeronautics and military and naval engineering. January, 1918.

List of books added, 1914 to date.

List of periodical literature on file in the Mechanics' Institute Library, 1928. Compiled by Mary O. Carmody.

Seventy-five years of history of the Mechanics' Institute, compiled by John H. Wood, Secretary, 1930.